

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268

In the Matter of:

BADGER, IA 50516  
Post Office State ZIP Code

Docket No: A2012-110

Terry & Judy Kahle Petitioner(s)

PARTICIPANT STATEMENT

1. Petitioner(s) are appealing the Postal Service's Final Determination concerning the Badger IA post office. The Final Determination was posted 3 (Around 12/20/2011) (date)

2. In accordance with applicable law, 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)(5), the Petitioner(s) request the Postal Regulatory Commission to review the Postal Service's determination on the basis of the record before the Postal Service in the making of the determination.

3. Petitioners: Please set out below the reasons why you believe the Postal Service's Final Determination should be reversed and returned to the Postal Service for further consideration. (See pages of the Instructions for an outline of the kinds of reasons the law requires us to consider.) Please be as specific as possible. Please continue on additional paper if you need more space and attach the additional page(s) to this form.

See Attached

January 31, 2012

Reference: Appeal of the Postal Service's Determination to Close the Badger Post Office, Badger, Iowa  
Docket No. A2012-110

We are responding to Shoshana M. Grove's (Secretary at the Postal Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C.) letter regarding our appeal letter to the above reference post office closing.

Our main concern was not so much the closing of the office, but the lack of information and confusing communications regarding this closing. We received a letter in the mail from Congress saying nothing more would be done until May 15, 2012 regarding closing of post offices and then about a week or so later we learned from our neighbors that the Badger Post Office would close on January 21, 2012. When asking our acting postmaster, she said she had called her contact and that it was proceeding with the closure. I asked then if there would be cluster boxes and she didn't know. There wasn't enough information available to close this post office. The next day (December 23, 2011) we wrote a letter to the Postal Regulatory Commission in Washington D.C. expressing our concerns with a January 21, 2012 closing. That letter is in your files. Evidently, since it is January 31, 2012, and the Badger, Iowa post office is still open, this plan was changed.

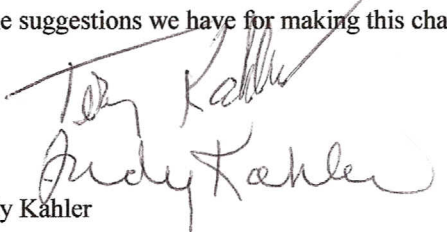
What we would like to see happen (that is if the post office in Badger has to close) is that a good and timely, well-thought out communication go to all households that are served by the Badger, Iowa post office. We'd like this to be a written communication to be sent three months in advance of the closing and letting all households know the date of closing. Also, included in this written communication would be what options are available to those who would no longer be served by this post office. It possibly could contain a simple form to be completed and returned to the Postmaster in Badger, Iowa letting the USPS know which option was being selected by that household.

**For example** if it is decided that the post office is to be closed **June 1, 2012** (and this is for example purposes only) that communications to the people in Badger be sent to each household and not merely a posting in the post office of this decision, and that the Postmaster receives good information to help with the many questions, she will be receiving from the Badger, IA residents.

1. The communication goes out March 1, 2012 (three months in advance of the closing--example only)
2. It would explain what and where mail services would be available. This would include such things as mailing letters, packages, purchasing stamps and other supplies; cluster boxes (availability, location and how to reserve one); keeping the rural delivery, getting a post office box (which post offices have them, are still going to be open and are close to that household); how to make address changes if necessary and the forms to do that; and anything else that would be pertinent and necessary for households to know.
3. A simple form would be enclosed asking households to complete and return to the Badger, IA postmaster by April 1, 2012--again date is for example only. This could be as simple as listing the options available (leave as is--probably would be rural delivery only, change to a cluster box, will be doing PO Box at another Post Office, or anything else that would be available) By doing this the Postmaster would know that everyone has been contacted and made aware of these changes and what type of postal service they would have.

These are the suggestions we have for making this change go more smoothly through this difficult transition.

Thank you.

  
Terry & Judy Kahler  
PO Box 42  
Badger, IA 50516